

**FY08 LAND Project Summaries**  
**LOCAL ACQUISITION FOR NATURAL DIVERSITY**  
**Self-Help Grant Awards**

**Amherst, Cushman Brook Corridor Project, 28.66 acres**

- **Benefits:** Protects headwaters of Mill River watershed (previous SH and LWCF).
- Total project cost \$610,000, grant award \$427,000, leverage \$183,000
- Project Partners: The Kestrel Trust raised \$40k+ in private funds
- Senator(s): Rosenberg
- Representative(s): Story

**Belchertown, Topping Farm, 57 acres**

- **Benefits:** Latest effort by the town to add on to existing conservation area of 167 acres (also purchased through DCS grant program). Land is part of aquifer for Belchertown, Amherst & Pelham. MNHESP reports 2 rare species and land is within BioMap Supporting Landscape.
- Total project cost \$455,000, grant award \$309,400, leverage \$145,600
- Project Partners: The Kestrel Trust pre-acquired this lot plus the adjacent houselot, and is marketing the house & lot to offset acquisition costs.
- Senator(s): Rosenberg, Candares
- Representative(s): Petroloti, Kulik

**Boxborough, Mitchell Property, 25.6 acres**

- **Benefits:** This project would add to a regional corridor of protected open space and permanently protect important wetland and wildlife habitat. Abuts existing conservation land.
- Total project cost \$420,000, grant award \$235,200, leverage \$184,800
- Project Partners: Boxborough Conservation Trust raised private funds.
- Senator(s): Resor
- Representative(s): Eldridge

**Boxford, Cargill Fields, 14.5 acres**

- **Benefits:** Protects a 9-acre hayfield, and 6 acres of woodland that abut Fish Brook and Howes Pond. This pond is within MNHESP Living Waters Core Habitat. Agricultural use will continue on hayfield.
- Total project cost \$775,000, grant award \$418,000, leverage \$356,500
- Project Partners: Essex County Greenbelt Association, Boxford Trails Association and the Boxford Open Land Trust
- Senator(s): Tarr
- Representative(s): Hill, L'Italien

**Brewster, Stony Brook, 9.8 acres**

- Benefits: This 10 acre parcel is the wooded ridgeline that lies within the viewshed of the former Jolly Whaler Trailer Park. That park was purchased & "undeveloped" by the Town last year. Adds to 1000-acre protected area. MHC identified this as one of 14 priority sites and highly archeologically sensitive. MNHESP identified 3 rare species (2 plants, 1 moth).
- Total project cost \$120,0000, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$700,000
- Project Partners: Brewster Conservation Trust has contributed \$50k.
- Senator(s): R. O'Leary
- Representative(s): Turner

**Clinton, Rauscher Farm, 24.57 acres**

- Benefits: This project is part of larger effort to protect 62 acres, the last large piece of undeveloped land in town. Abuts DCR Wachusett Watershed land and 25-acre town parcel.
- Total project cost \$520,000, grant award \$353,600, leverage \$166,400
- Project Partners: Clinton Greenway Conservation Trust raised private funds
- Senator(s): Chandler, Antonioni
- Representative(s): Naughton

**East Brookfield, Pelletier Property, 118 acres**

- Benefits: Town has submitted its first SH project to create a corridor of protected open space that includes this project, WMA, CR and Wells State Park. Site already has several well defined trails and active forest management would continue.
- Total project cost \$650,000, grant award \$416,000, leverage \$234,000
- Project Partners: private donations, but no land trust reported.
- Senator(s): Brewer
- Representative(s): Alicea

**Easthampton, Echodale Farm, 24.3 acres**

- Benefits: Part of a larger project with the Trust for Public Land and Pascommuck Conservation Trust to protect the entire farm, a 164-acre property. This portion includes open fields and orchard land, and the balance is pending approval from the APR program. Adds to a block of protected open space and protects a vibrant wildlife corridor.
- Total project cost \$450,000, grant award \$306,000, leverage \$144,000
- Project Partners: Trust for Public Land and Pascommuck Conservation Trust
- Senator(s): Knapik
- Representative(s): Scibak

**Holliston, NSTAR Land, 86.3 acres**

- Benefits: Negotiations are in full swing with NSTAR to protect 11 parcels totalling 86 acres. The Trustees of Reservations plan to hold the conservation restriction as the town plans to use CPA funds for this acquisition. The land is contiguous to the Town Forest, and within MNHESP Core Habitat and Zone II area.
- Total project cost \$1,000,000, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$500,000
- Project Partners: The Trustees of Reservations
- Senator(s): Spilka
- Representative(s): Loscocco

**Hubbardston, Malone Road, 67.5 acres**

- Benefits: Town is eager to add onto 1000-acre block of protected open space that includes a previous SH acquisition, Mt. Jefferson. Purchase would protect Core Habitat, Priority Habitat and the American Bittern.
- Total project cost \$440,000, grant award \$290,400, leverage \$149,600
- Project Partners: Fields Pond Foundation, Wharton Trust, Baffin Foundation, Davis Conservation Foundation and the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership
- Senator(s): Brewer
- Representative(s): Evangelidis

**Northampton, Mineral Hill, 72.1 acres**

- Benefits: City hopes to acquire 60.55 acres in fee and an additional 11.53-acre CR on Turkey Hill, part of the Mineral Hills Conservation Area. Connects to last year's SH project and preserves a critical ecosystem and wildlife corridor.
- Total project cost \$940,000, grant award \$470,000, leverage \$470,000
- Project Partners: private donations and Town of Westhampton to hold a CR.
- Senator(s): Rosenberg
- Representative(s): Kocot

**Orleans, Sparrow Property, 6.5 acres**

- Benefits: Adds to previous SH project by filling in between 16 acres to the north across Namequoit River and 44 acres to the south. Includes frontage on Arey's Pond, a saltwater pond & tidal river - estuarine habitat. Within Pleasant Bay ACEC and BioMap Core Habitat and Statewide Land Conservation Plan. Includes 2 Native American archeological sites.
- Total project cost \$1,250,000, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$750,000
- Project Partners: Technical assistance from the Cape Cod Compact of Conservation Trusts
- Senator(s): R. O'Leary
- Representative(s): Peake

**Pembroke, Hill-Gummerus, 96.9 acres**

- Benefits: At nearly 100 acres, this parcel has been embroiled by a contested Chapter 61 right-of-first refusal issue and was heard in land court last April. Property includes 2 rare species, BioMap Core Habitat and Supporting Natural Landscapes. It is also home to the Upper Chandler Pond Dam, an archeological resource identified by MHC. It is adjacent to town forest & active recreation area.
- Total project cost \$975,000, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$475,000
- Project Partners: no partners reported.
- Senator(s): Murray
- Representative(s): Webster

**Pepperell, Keyes-River Road, 106 acres**

- Benefits: Town is working with Trust for Public Land and Nashoba Conservation Trust to protect entire 145 acre parcel. An APR application is pending on the active agricultural portion, and the balance of 106 acres were submitted for SH consideration. Portion is identified by MNHESP as Priority Habitat and a portion lies within the Petapawag Area of Critical Environmental Concern.
- Total project cost \$499,000, grant award \$319,360, leverage \$179,640
- Project Partners: Trust for Public Land (pre-acquired the land) and Nashoba Conservation Trust, both did private fundraising.
- Senator(s): Panagiotakos
- Representative(s): Hargraves

**Petersham, Gould Woodlot, 87 acres**

- Benefits: Petersham has submitted its first SH application to protect an 87-acre woodlot with help from Harvard Forest and the East Quabbin Land Trust. Land includes frontage on Nelson Brook, a cold water stream, and abuts the Petersham State Forest and Harvard Forest properties. Harvard Forest hopes to make this land the centerpiece of the Gould Woodland Center for Conservation to share woodland understanding, experiences and Best Management Practices with landowners and the general public.
- Total project cost \$430,000, grant award \$275,200 leverage \$154,800
- Project Partners: Harvard Forest and the East Quabbin Land Trust, both did private fundraising.
- Senator(s): Brewer
- Representative(s): Gobi

**Princeton, Four Corners Hayfield, 25 acres**

- Benefits: Town hopes to purchase 25 acre portion of 168 acre property as part of a limited development solution to preserve scenic resource at intersection of Gates and Old Colony Road. Land is within Priority Habitat and part of potential relocation of Midstate Trail.
- Total project cost \$900,000, grant award \$500,000 leverage \$400,000
- Project Partners: The Trust for Public Lands and Mass Audubon.
- Senator(s): Chandler
- Representative(s): Evangelidis

**Rehoboth, Ministerial Lands, 63 acres**

- Benefits: The Trustees of Reservations is working with the town to purchase this sizable parcel of undeveloped land . TTOR plans to acquire the land, then convey a CR to the town. Includes 2 streams and is close to the Palmer River, and part of larger effort to establish a greenway along the river and its tributaries.
- Total project cost \$125,000, grant award \$75,000, leverage \$50,000
- Project Partners: The Trustees of Reservations
- Senator(s): Knapik
- Representative(s): Sandlin

**Russell, Noble View, 358.5 acres**

- Benefits: Appalachian Mountain Club currently owns the property, but conveying this CR to the town will provide permanent legal protection to the land under Article 97, and funds for AMC to continue upgrades to this conservation and environmental education center. Abuts 13000 acre Cobble Mtn Reservoir owned by Springfield Water Department. Within Biocore Supporting Habitat.
- Total project cost \$675,000, grant award \$472,500, leverage \$202,500
- Project Partners: Appalachian Mountain Club and Winding River Conservancy
- Senator(s): Knapik
- Representative(s): Sandlin

**Wareham, Barker Property, 19.6 acres**

- Benefits: Partnership between Town, Mass Audubon and Wareham Land Trust to assemble more than 200 acres of coastal woodland, wetland and shoreline on Great Neck. Property could support additional house lots. MNHESP identified Roseate Tern, Common Tern & Eastern Box Turtle + BioMap Core Habitat, Estimated Habitat for Wetland Wildlife and Priority Habitat. Also within Statewide Land Conservation Plan.
- Total project cost \$400,000, grant award \$224,000, leverage \$176,000
- Project Partners: Mass Audubon and Wareham Land Trust
- Senator(s): Pacheco
- Representative(s): Gifford

**West Newbury, Moseley Property, 22.2 acres**

- Benefits: Essex County Greenbelt Association is working with the town and the pending new owners of the subject property and adjacent lands to permanently protect them. The 22-acre property includes an open field and frontage on Indian Hill Road.
- Total project cost \$510,000, grant award \$285,600, leverage \$224,400
- Project Partners: Essex County Greenbelt Association
- Senator(s): Tarr
- Representative(s): Stanley

**Westminster, Schenk Farm, 61.4 acres**

- Benefits: Project part of larger effort to protect entire 108 acre farm. APR is pending on 46 acre active farm and a sale will be completed pending approval of the APR. Self-Help is requested on the balance of the land which is primarily wooded. The Mid-State Trail bisects the property. Land also includes 2 vernal pools.
- Total project cost \$300,000, grant award \$186,000, leverage \$114,000
- Project Partners: North County Land Trust negotiated with landowner, and NCLT and the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership helped prepare both the SH and APR applications.
- Senator(s): Antonioni
- Representative(s): Evangelidis

**Westport, Dunhams Brook, 28 acres**

- Benefits: The Trustees of Reservations and Westport Land Conservation Trust are working with the town to protect land that contains Dunhams Brook and links to over 60 acres of protected land creating one of the largest conservation areas in town.
- Total project cost \$250,000, grant award \$140,000, leverage \$110,000
- Project Partners: The Trustees of Reservations and Westport Land Conservation Trust
- Senator(s): Menard
- Representative(s): Rodrigues

**Yarmouth, Dennis Pond, 2.8 acres**

- Benefits: This small acquisition is the missing puzzle piece and will complete the comprehensive land conservation project that completely surrounds the pond. The site is within BioMap Core Habitat and Priority Habitat.
- Total project cost \$500,000, \$250,000, leverage \$250,000
- Project Partners: Yarmouth Conservation Trust
- Senator(s): R. O'Leary
- Representative(s): Turner, Atsalis

FY08 PARC Project Summaries  
**PARC: PARK ACQUISITION AND RENOVATION FOR COMMUNITIES**  
Urban Self-Help Grant Awards

**Barnstable, Pleasant Street Acquisition Project, 0.35 acres**

- This new park will link to the harborfront through a harborwalk, creating a walking path that will economically benefit the town, a new stormwater recharge system will reduce runoff into the harbor, and kiosks will educate visitors
- Total project cost \$545,000, grant award \$294,300, leverage \$250,700
- Partner: Town of Barnstable
- Representatives Atsalis, Patrick, and Perry; Senators O’Leary and Murray

**Brockton, GAR Park Renovation**

- Renovation of plaza next to City Hall will restore landscaping, add new benches and lighting, and work to create a pedestrian friendly area within a quarter mile of City Hall
- Total project cost \$169,841, grant award \$118,888, leverage \$50,953
- Partner: City of Brockton
- Representatives Creedon, Kennedy, and Canavan; Senator Creedon, Jr.

**Brockton, New Soccer Field at Snow Park**

- The construction of a new soccer field and amenities will add facilities to accommodate the city’s most requested sport
- Total project cost \$350,000, grant award \$245,000, leverage \$105,000
- Partner: City of Brockton
- Representatives Creedon, Kennedy, and Canavan; Senator Creedon, Jr.

**Cambridge, Cambridge Common Playground**

- The renovation of the playground will upgrade ADA accessibility, add a water play feature to an area of the city that is lacking this amenity; fencing, furniture, signage, and lighting will also be updated
- Total project cost \$500,000, grant award \$270,000, leverage \$230,000
- Partner: City of Cambridge
- Representatives Toomey, Rushing, Walz, Wolf, Kaprielien, and Brownsberger; Senators Petruccelli and Tolman

**Chelsea, Creekside Commons**

- A developer donated an acre of land next to Chelsea Creek to build this new park facility that will serve as an intergenerational park with bocce courts and horseshoe fields for the elderly living nearby, as well as park components geared to childhood development
- Total project cost \$1,482,865, grant award \$493,160, leverage \$989,705
- Partners: City of Chelsea, Chelsea Greenspace Alliance, and the Smith Family Foundation
- Representatives O’Flaherty and Reinstein; Senator seat is vacant

**Dennis, Seaview Playland Park**

- This new park is in a less affluent neighborhood in Dennis where the local hotels have been requesting more amenities, such as parks, for their visitors; the site includes walking trails, educational signage, a playground, a public gathering space, and an osprey nesting pole
- Total project cost \$502,815, grant award \$261,464, leverage \$241,351
- Partner: Town of Dennis
- Representative Turner; Senator O’Leary

**Easthampton, Lower Mill Pond Park, 4.0 acres**

- An acquisition of four acres will add to the overall size of this park and will include the construction of a new pavilion/amphitheatre and a new bathroom facility
- Total project cost \$295,000, grant award \$200,600, leverage \$94,400
- Partner: City of Easthampton
- Representative Scibak; Senator Knapik

**Fitchburg, Coolidge Park Renovations**

- The project includes stormwater management improvements to reduce runoff into the adjacent river, as well as the addition of a new play area, improvements to the entrance drive and parking areas, and the addition of new plantings
- Total project cost \$714,402, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$214,402
- Partner: City of Fitchburg
- Representative DiNatale; Senator Antonioni

**Greenfield, Green River Swim Area Rehabilitation**

- The renovations planned for the site will greatly improve ADA access and add recreational amenities to the swim area
- Total project cost \$296,096, grant award \$207,267, leverage \$88,829
- Partner: Town of Greenfield
- Representative Donelan; Senator Rosenberg

**Holyoke, Jones Ferry River Access Center**

- The site will be renovated to create a smaller parking lot, cutting down on runoff into the Connecticut River; the boat ramp will be resurfaced, improvements to the lawn areas and landscaping will be made, and a handicapped accessible boat house will be added
- Total project cost \$1,019,000, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$519,000
- Partner: City of Holyoke
- Representative Kane; Senator Knapik

**Lawrence, Covanta Site Park**

- The current brownfield site will be cleaned to make it an appropriate site for a park facility and active and passive recreation areas will be developed; the Spicket Riverwalk will be extended along the site, and new benches, landscaping, and amenities will be included
- Total project cost \$751,727, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$251,727
- Partners: City of Lawrence and EPA Brownfields
- Representatives Torrisi, Lantigua, and Finegold; Senator Tucker

**Lowell, Concord River Greenway**

- The park will provide public access to the Concord River where it previously was inaccessible and connect the park to the downtown area; a bridge to Centennial Island will also be constructed
- Total project cost \$1,205,000, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$705,000
- Partners: City of Lowell, Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust
- Representatives Golden, Nangle, and Murphy; Senator Panagiotakos

**Malden, MacDonald Stadium Rehabilitation**

- The installation of a synthetic, multi-purpose field will allow for year-round access to this environmental justice neighborhood park facility
- Total project cost \$1,131,769, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$631,769
- Partners: City of Malden, Malden Redevelopment Authority
- Representatives Fallon and Donato; Senator Tisei

**Pittsfield, Wahconah Park Improvements Project**

- Renovation of the site will improve stormwater drainage issues into the adjacent Housatonic River; the project includes the renovation of the stadium, ballfield, and parking area
- Total project cost \$763,115, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$263,115
- Partner: City of Pittsfield
- Representatives Guyer and Pignatelli; Senator Downing

**Rockland, Rockland Golf Course, 74.3 acres**

- The acquisition of a CR on this 74.3 acre golf course will protect the remaining open space in town and prevent the development of this site
- Total project cost \$499,000, grant award \$329,340, leverage \$169,660
- Partners: Town of Rockland and The Trust for Public Land
- Representative Nyman; Senator Morrissey

**Salem, 15 Peabody Street Park**

- The current brownfield site will be cleaned to make it an appropriate site for a park facility that will serve as an anchor park for the harbor walk and will include a playground, game tables, and a gazebo
- Total project cost \$742,000, grant award \$474,880, leverage \$267,120
- Partners: City of Salem and Salem Sound Coastwatch
- Representative Keenan; Senator Berry

**Somerville, Central Hill Memorial Park**

- The site design of the park is not well integrated and this grant will enable a more thoughtful redesign to be completed; the park redesign will add more amenities to the site including a sustainable water feature, an ethno-centered herb garden, and interpretive programming for adjacent schools
- Total project cost \$773,347, grant award \$494,942, leverage \$278,405
- Partner: City of Somerville
- Representatives Toomey, Provost, and Sciortino; Senator Jehlen

**South Hadley, Beachgrounds Renovation Project**

- The grant will enable the town to rededicate existing town-owned land to park land, expanding the park by 0.26 acres and add a basketball court and additional parking, develop a water park/splash pad, install a new playground structure, bath house, lighting, irrigation, picnic tables, and fencing
- Total project cost \$736,316, grant award \$500,000, leverage \$236,316
- Partner: Town of South Hadley
- Representative Scibak; Senator Rosenberg

**South Hadley, Ledges Golf Club Clubhouse Project**

- A permanent clubhouse will be added and enable the town to make money from the site for their park fund
- Total project cost \$653,150, grant award \$217,278, leverage \$435,872
- Partner: Town of South Hadley
- Representative Scibak; Senator Rosenberg

**Springfield, DeBerry Playground and Old Hill Lighting**

- The project will allow for the renovation of the ball fields, the installation of a basketball court, new site amenities, and perimeter fencing, as well as additional lighting
- Total project cost \$360,000, grant award \$252,000, leverage \$108,000
- Partner: City of Springfield
- Representatives Rogeness, Curran, Rivera, Swan, Puppolo, Welch, and Petrolati; Senator Buoniconti and Candaras

**Worcester, Vernon Hill Park Renovation**

- The project will allow for improvements to drainage and grading issues on the softball field; the project includes the renovation of the little league field, play structures, swing sets, and walking paths, installation of benches, utility upgrades, and tree planting
- Total project cost \$650,000, grant award \$455,000, leverage \$195,000
- Partner: City of Worcester
- Representatives Spellane, Leary, Pedone, Fresolo, and Binienda; Senators Chandler and Augustus